

9302440

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property/District Name: Part of Culpepper
Thomas Spencer House Survey Number: SM-496

Project: MD 235 from MD 4 to MD 246, St. Mary's County Agency: FHWA/SHA

Site visit by MHT Staff: X no yes Name Date

Eligibility recommended Eligibility not recommended X

Criteria: A B XC D Considerations: A B C D E F G None

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)

Based on the information provided by SHA, Thomas Spencer House does not meet the National Register Criteria for individual listing. The property consists of a frame farmhouse dating from the turn of the century, and a frame barn and shed, both constructed c. 1945. The buildings are representative vernacular types for the period and location, but are not significant enough to meet the NR Criteria C. The property is not known to be associated with any significant event or person. In addition, it is not located in any known historic district.

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Project File & Inventory
form

Prepared by: Rita Suffness

Elizabeth Hannold
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

December 9, 1993
Date

NR program concurrence: X yes no not applicable

[Signature]
Reviewer, NR program

12.9.93
Date

Survey No. SH 496

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT

I. Geographic Region:

☐ Eastern Shore (all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)
☒ Western Shore (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles,
Prince George's and St. Mary's)
☐ Piedmont (Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll,
Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)
☐ Western Maryland (Allegany, Garrett and Washington)

II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:

☐ Paleo-Indian 10000-7500 B.C.
☐ Early Archaic 7500-6000 B.C.
☐ Middle Archaic 6000-4000 B.C.
☐ Late Archaic 4000-2000 B.C.
☐ Early Woodland 2000-500 B.C.
☐ Middle Woodland 500 B.C. - A.D. 900
☐ Late Woodland/Archaic A.D. 900-1600
☐ Contact and Settlement A.D. 1570-1750
☐ Rural Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1680-1815
☐ Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870
☒ Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930
☒ Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present
☐ Unknown Period (☐ prehistoric ☐ historic)

III. Prehistoric Period Themes:

☐ Subsistence
☐ Settlement
☐ Political
☐ Demographic
☐ Religion
☐ Technology
☐ Environmental Adaption

IV. Historic Period Themes:

☐ Agriculture
☒ Architecture, Landscape Architecture,
and Community Planning
☐ Economic (Commercial and Industrial)
☐ Government/Law
☐ Military
☐ Religion
☐ Social/Educational/Cultural
☐ Transportation

V. Resource Type:

Category: buildings

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Domestic, Agricultural

Known Design Source: Unknown

Capsule Summary
SM-496
Part of Culpepper
California
Private

Circa 1900

Part of Culpepper is significant as an example of a modest farmhouse built around the turn of the nineteenth century in St. Mary's County. Notably, the exterior of the main block is well-preserved. Although the house is located next to Route 235, a buffer of trees protects it from the heavily trafficked route.

Built around 1900 by the heirs of Thomas Spencer, this house was purchased by Dora D. Clarke in 1919. According to Dorothy Stone, the granddaughter of Dora and Thomas Clarke, the house is built of oak beams. At the time of the Clarkes' purchase, a small grocery store was attached to the northeast corner of the house. The store was vacant and in poor repair and was soon demolished by the Clarke family. During the Clarke ownership, a barn, wood house, meat house, and chicken house stood on the property. They raised corn and tobacco on the farm and also kept pigs, chickens, a cow, and a horse.

Between 1932 and 1936, the California Post Office was located in the Clarke house. Originally located in a store on the corner of Route 235 and Rolling Road, the store burned around 1932. Postmaster John Gross then hired Dorothy Stone to act as his assistant and set up the post office in the center hall of her home. The office consisted of a desk, a safe, and a series of mailboxes. At that time, about twenty-five customers and mail carrier Nace Anderson frequented the post office.

SM-496, Part of Culpepper
St. Mary's County
Maryland Comprehensive State Historic Preservation Plan Data

Historic Context

Geographic Organization: Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period: Industrial-Urban Dominance, 1870 - 1930.

Historic Period Theme: Architecture

Resource Type

Category: Structure

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function and Use: Dwelling
Post Office

Known Design Source: none

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. SM-496

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Part of Culpepper

2. Location

street & number Route 235

 not for publication

city, town California

 vicinity of

congressional district 5

state Maryland

county St. Mary's

3. Classification

Category

 district

☒ building(s)

 structure

 site

 object

Ownership

 public

☒ private

 both

Public Acquisition

 in process

 being considered

☒ not applicable

Status

 occupied

☒ unoccupied

 work in progress

Accessible

☒ yes: restricted

 yes: unrestricted

 no

Present Use

 agriculture

 commercial

 educational

 entertainment

 government

 industrial

 military

 museum

 park

☒ private residence

 religious

 scientific

 transportation

 other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name H. W. Hall et al

street & number 130 North Washington St.

telephone no.: 301-475-9847

city, town Leonardtown

state and zip code MD 20650

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.

St. Mary's County Courthouse

liber MRB 174

street & number

folio 231

city, town Leonardtown

state MD 20650

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date

 federal state county local

pository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Survey No. SM-496

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Contributing Resource Count: 1

Part of Culpepper is located on the south side of Route 235 in California in St. Mary's County, Maryland. Obscured by a line of trees, the house stands on the edge of the old railroad bed. Two outbuildings stand on the property. The house faces north with the principal gable oriented on an east/west axis.

Built around 1900, the main block of the two-story, frame dwelling has a center hall, single pile plan. The house is supported by a brick pier foundation and is sheathed with weatherboard siding. The roof is covered with corrugated metal. A one-story, three bay kitchen wing extends to the west and a one-story, shed roof wing extends to the south.

The north (main) elevation consists of a central four-light-over-three-panel door with a single light transom flanked by a six-over-six sash window on either side. A shed roof porch supported by chamfered posts extends across the full width of the first floor. The porch has a cement floor and plywood ceiling. The second floor of the main block is pierced by three six-over-six sash windows. The roofline is broken by a cross gable and pierced by a six-over-six sash window. A one-story wing extends to the west. This wing is pierced by three six-over-six sash windows with wide surrounds.

The west elevation of the main block is blind. An interior brick chimney pierces the roof ridgeline. The west end of the one-story addition is pierced by one six-over-six sash window with wide surrounds.

The south elevation of the kitchen wing is pierced by a four-light-over-three-panel door which opens onto an enclosed porch addition. The main block is pierced by one six-over-six sash window. Most of the first floor is obscured by a one-story, shed roof addition pierced by two six-over-six sash windows and a thirteen-light-over-two-panel door. The second floor of the house is pierced by three six-over-six sash windows.

The east elevation of the main block is blind. An interior brick chimney pierces the roof ridgeline at this east gable end.

The interior consists of a center hall with an open string stair. The stair baluster consists of simple square posts. A parlor is located east of the stair hall and a dining room is located to the west. The rear shed roof addition consists of a bathroom and back bedroom. The kitchen and a pantry is located in the west wing. The second floor of the house consists of two bedrooms and a bathroom.

8. Significance

Survey No. SM-496

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates None Builder/Architect Unknown

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Part of Culpepper is significant as an example of a modest farmhouse built around the turn of the nineteenth century in St. Mary's County. Notably, the exterior of the main block is well-preserved. Although the house is located next to Route 235, a buffer of trees protects it from the heavily trafficked route.

Built around 1900 by the heirs of Thomas Spencer, this house was purchased by Dora D. Clarke in 1919. According to Dorothy Stone, the granddaughter of Dora and Thomas Clarke, the house is built of oak beams. At the time of the Clarkes' purchase, a small grocery store was attached to the northeast corner of the house. The store was vacant and in poor repair and was soon demolished by the Clarke family. During the Clarke ownership, a barn, wood house, meat house, and chicken house stood on the property. They raised corn and tobacco on the farm and also kept pigs, chickens, a cow, and a horse.

Dorothy Stone, who grew up here, remembers Three Notched Road (Route 235) as an unpaved country road too narrow for the passage of a pair of horse and buggies. Sometimes, the mud on the road became as deep as the buggy axels. Mrs. Stone also remembers a stand of oak trees located between the house and the road. Some of these trees were marked with three notches. Although the railroad bed located between the house and the road had been built up in the late 1800s, it was not put into use until construction of the Patuxent Naval Air Station in the 1940s.

Between 1932 and 1936, the California Post Office was located in the Clarke house. Originally located in a store on the corner of Route 235 and Rolling Road, the store burned around 1932. Postmaster John Gross then hired Dorothy Stone to act as his assistant and set up the post office in the center hall of her home. The office consisted of a desk, a safe, and a series of mailboxes. At that time, about twenty-five customers and mail carrier Nace Anderson frequented the post office.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. SM-496

Hall, H.W. Telephone Interview, March 1995.
Morgan, Ruby. Telephone Interview, March 1995.
Stone, Dorothy. Telephone Interview, May 1995.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 7.75 acresQuadrangle name HollywoodQuadrangle scale 1:24 000UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

B

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

F

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

G

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

H

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Elizabeth Hughes, HIstoric Sites Surveyororganization St. Mary's County DPZdate May 1995

street & number

telephone 301-475-4662city or town Leonardtownstate MD

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
514-7600

SM-496, Part of Culpepper
St. Mary's County
7.1 Description

Two outbuildings stand on the property. A shed, sheathed with vertical board siding and roofed with corrugated metal, is located to the east of the house. The shed was used for storage and as a small corn house. A tobacco barn sheathed with vertical boards and roofed with corrugated metal is located to the south of the house. A meathouse originally stood to the west of the house.

SM-496, Part of Culpepper
St. Mary's County
8.1 Significance

Chain of Title

TO: Henry W. Hall and Raymond H. Hall and Mae H. Depp
FROM: Lottie H. Hall
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber MRB 176, folio 231.
DATE: April 2, 1983
NOTES: Transfer of "Part of Culpepper" being 7 3/4 acres the remaining portion of Part of Culpepper.

TO: Lottie H. Hall
FROM: Olive Deane and Floyd F. Deane
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber CBG 47, folio 464.
DATE: November 5, 1953.
NOTES: Transfer of "Part of Culpepper" being 7 3/4 acres.

TO: Olive Deane
FROM: Mary R. Fowler
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber CBG 29, folio 65.
DATE: February 13, 1950.
NOTES: Transfer of "Part of Culpepper" being 7 3/4 acres.

TO: Mary R. Fowler
FROM: Irving W. Deane and Mary M. Deane
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber CBG 29, folio 57.
DATE: January 27, 1950.
NOTES: Transfer of their interest in three tracts. Tract 1 being twenty acres of "Part of Culpepper;" Tract 2 being 12 acres of "Part of Culpepper;" Tract 3 being 1/4 acre.

TO: Irving W. Deane and Mary M. Deane; Olive Deane
FROM: J. Spencer Martin and Mary Estelle Martin
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Libier CBG 21, folio 464.
DATE: July 21, 1948.
NOTES: Transfer of a 1/2 interest in the above mentioned tracts to each party.

TO: J. Spencer Martin and Mary Estelle Martin
FROM: George F. Abell and Alice Victoria Abell and Joseph B. Drury, late county treasurer.
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber JMM 11, folio 185.
DATE: July 18, 1938.
NOTES: Sale of property at public auction. Tract 1 being twenty acres of "Part Culpepper." Tract 2 being twelve acres of "Part Culpepper."

SM-496, Part of Culpepper
St. Mary's County
8.2 Significance

TRACT 2

TO: George F. Abell

FROM: Dora D. Clarke and Thomas I. Clarke

RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber JMM 10, folio 42.

DATE: October 6, 1936.

NOTES: Transfer of "Part of Culpepper" being 12 acres. Price: \$600.

TO: Dora D. Clarke

FROM: Edith M. Clarke

RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber EBA 18, folio 271.

DATE: September 2, 1919.

NOTES: Transfer of "Part of Culpepper." Price: \$350.

TO: Edith M. Clarke

FROM: Katharine Crane Loker, Robert C. Loker, T. Spencer Crane, Nannie Dorsey Crane, G. Edwardina Crane

RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber EBA 16, folio 31.

DATE: December 31, 1916

NOTES: Transfer of "Part of Culpepper" which the late Thomas O. Spencer purchased of Clarke J. Durant et al in JAC 6/27 and which parties of the first part inherited via the will of Thomas Spencer of February 10, 1880. Price: \$550

TO: Heirs

FROM: Thomas O. Spencer

RECORD: St. Mary's County Testamentary Record, Liber JBA 1, folio 5.

DATE: November 9, 1880

NOTES: Devision of all property to wife Catherine M. Spencer and after her death to Laura A. Crane, wife of J. Parran Crane, and after her death to her children.

Thomas Spencer House
California, St. Mary's County

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

Geographic Organization: Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period (s):

Industrial/Urban Dominance 1870-1930 A.D.

Prehistoric/Historic Period

Theme(s): Architecture/Agriculture

Resource Type:

Category: Buildings

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function (s) and Use (s):

Domestic/single dwelling/residence
Agriculture/Subsistence/barn

Known Design Source: None

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. SM-496

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Thomas Spencer House

and/or common Raymond Hall House

2. Location

street & number 1053 Three Notch Road ☐ not for publication

city, town California ☐ vicinity of congressional district 8th

state Maryland , county St. Mary's

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name H.W. Hall, et. al., c/o Raymond Hall

street & number 130 N. Washington Street telephone no.:

city, town Leonardtown state and zip code MD 20650

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. County Courthouse liber MRB176

street & number folio 231

city, town Leonardtown state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title N/A

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. SM-496

Condition

☐ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☒ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site

☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET 7.1

8. Significance

Survey No. SM-496

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates late 19th c. Builder/Architect Unknown

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET 8.1

Survey No. SM-496

10. Geographical Data

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

A

Zone Easting Northing

B

Zone Easting Northing

C

D | | | | |

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Rita Suffness
------------	---------------

organization Maryland State Highway Admin. date 9/15/93

street & number 707 N. Calvert Street telephone 410-333-1183

city or town Baltimore state Maryland

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
~~(301) 269-2438~~

MANTEL TRUST
DROPHOOD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
514-7600

Thomas Spencer House
California
St. Mary's County
Continuation Sheet 7.1 Description

The Thomas Spencer House is located in a rapidly developing area of St. Mary's County in the environs of California, near the intersection of Three Notch Road (MD 235) and Old Rolling Road. The 7.75 acre site is primarily woodland, but was evidently used for the cultivation of tobacco at one time. It is currently zoned for commercial development and on the market.

The site is very rundown and poorly maintained. It is composed of a probable late nineteenth century frame, two part dwelling, a shed, and the remains of a dilapidated and overgrown barn. The latter two buildings were constructed during the ownership of the Clarke's ca. 1945, according to a family descendent. The small barn was unreachable due to the heavy overgrowth.

The two-part dwelling is composed of a three bay wide, two-story, principal section with a broad cross gable interrupting the gable roof which parallels the north facing entrance facade. The fenestration, composed of six-over-six lights, is regular, with a small window near the apex of the cross gable. The entrance, with a simple, two-pane transom, is sheltered by a one-story shed roofed porch carried on simple square posts. The window and door surrounds are unmolded. Two simple brick chimneys are located inside the end walls at the apex of the gable roof built to accommodate stoves. There are vertical cornerboards on both parts of the dwelling.

There are no windows on either the east or west end walls. The fenestration on the rear (south) elevation is irregular, with the lower, westernmost window offset toward the east. Two shed roofed porches were either enclosed or added by the Halls in the last few decades. The one on the east, which continues the plane of the west wall of the two-story structure, is sheathed with vertical boards. The one on the west, which is partially screened, projects southward from the one-story addition.

This one-story addition, which continues the south plane of the principal section and is set back from the plane of the entrance facade, is also sheathed with horizontal cladding. The north elevation has three six-over-six lights, with unmolded architraves, and the end wall (on the west) has one centered window. The south elevation has no windows, and the easternmost bays are sheltered by the projecting, partially enclosed porch, which shelters a doorway. This one-story section was reportedly built in the third quarter of the twentieth century in the area where a small addition stood which housed a small store in the first decade of the twentieth century. By 1916 the business had been disbanded for some time and the building was deteriorating.

The two part dwelling, utilized as a rental property in the last few decades, and subject to considerable damage during that period, was heavily altered in the last 40 years during its

Continuation 7.2

ownership by the Hall family. Almost all of the original lathe and plaster was removed and replaced by sheet rock, floors were replaced, moldings removed and the exterior completely re-sheathed with wide horizontal boards.

Evidently the California post office was then temporarily located in the house in the 1930's. According to Ms. Dorothy Fenhagen Stone, the California Post office located near the intersection of MD 4 and Md 235 burned in September, 1931. Postmaster John Grass asked Mrs. Dora Dorcus Clarke, who owned and resided in the Thomas House at the time, if she would allow a temporary relocation of the facility while a search ensued for a new building. A small alcove was created on the east side of the center hall for the operation.

It is highly possible that the post office was moved across Three Notch Road (MD 235) to the Abell Store, as Beatrice Abell is noted as having been a postmaster prior to the fire, and could have resumed the position later. Records are not available, however, for the period following Mrs. Stones' tenure. She was the granddaughter of Mrs. Dora Dorcus Clarke.

Thomas Spencer House
California
St. Mary's County
Continuation Sheet 8.1
Statement of Significance

The Thomas Spencer House is an extremely dilapidated dwelling which has been heavily modified in the last 40 years. Although the early history of this late nineteenth century structure is exceedingly sketchy, it appears that an auxiliary structure, no longer extant, may have been the location of a small store in the first decade of the twentieth century. The house proper was the location of the California post office briefly in the 1930's after the post office at Tubman's Store burned in 1931.

The only structures on the site are a small heavily overgrown tobacco barn, which is inaccessible, and shed dating ca. 1945.

SM-496
Part of Culpepper
California
Hollywood Quad

CLARKS
LANDING
Creek
ROAD
MILL
RAILROAD
California
SPADE
BETON
PAVEMENT
SOLOMONS ISLAND
5760 IV SW
X15
X12
X16
X13
X14
X17
X18
X19
X20
X21
X22
X23
X24
X25
X26
X27
X28
X29
X30
X31
X32
X33
X34
X35
X36
X37
X38
X39
X40
X41
X42
X43
X44
X45
X46
X47
X48
X49
X50
X51
X52
X53
X54
X55
X56
X57
X58
X59
X60
X61
X62
X63
X64
X65
X66
X67
X68
X69
X70
X71
X72
X73
X74
X75
X76
X77
X78
X79
X80
X81
X82
X83
X84
X85
X86
X87
X88
X89
X90
X91
X92
X93
X94
X95
X96
X97
X98
X99
X100

HOLLYWOOD, MD.

SE/4 LEONARDTOWN 15' QUADRANGLE
38076-C5-TF-024

1963
PHOTOREVISED 1984
DMA 5660 I SE-SERIES V833



SM- 496

Part of Culpepper

St. Mary's County

E. Hughes

MD SHPO

June 1995

1/2

NW Elev



SM-496

Part of Wlpepper

St. Mary's County

E Hughes

MD SHPO

June 1995

2/2

SW Elev



SM-496

at Mary's Church

St. James, St. James, Pa.

St. James, 8 193

St. James, 193

St. James, 193



SM-496

2 Mary Lou
Thomas Spencer
Loree

Jeffrey 8/95
neg at M.L. State
Harry Adams



SM-496

54 Thompson Street

Thomas Spencer
Kennebec

reg. and State
Very Respectfully



SM-496

So. Maryland

Thomas Spencer

P. Spencer 8/93

reg. at MO. state

Hwy. 100



SM-496

St Mary's

Therapeutic

P. Ruffin 8/93
neg. Ind. St. Ry
Rm.



SM-496

1. Major County
2. Major County
3. Major County
4. Major County
5. Major County
6. Major County
7. Major County
8. Major County
9. Major County
10. Major County



5 M. 196

St. Mary's County
from across the
Susquehanna
river at Annapolis
Maryland



SM.496

Thomas Spencer

4000

Rela. 1/1/1911

819

Neg. = Arch. State

Univ. of Michigan



SM-496

St. Mary's Mount

Thomas' Square

St. Mary's

supper 8/23

now at 1217 State

O. Henry & Co.